THE DIVISOIN OF FLEET AND SURPLUS SERVICES

State of the Fleet

April 2000

Volume 1, Issue 3

Special points of interest:

- Motor Pool Begins the "Big Move."
- MVRC Meets April 10th.
- Federal Surplus Auction Being Held April 6th.
- Fleet Operations Customer Service Seminar April 19th.

Alternative Fuel Expedition Test Drive Comes to an End

Lt. Governor Olene Walker takes the CNG Expedition for a spin.

As part of an Alternative Fuel Awareness Program, sponsored by the State Fuel Network and the Clean Cities Coalition, the Governors office was given a Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Expedition for a six-month test drive. The Expedition was one of 50 prototype SUV's built by the Ford Motor Company to test market acceptance of alternatively fueled off-road vehicles. The Expeditions were donated to several high profile programs throughout the country, including beach patrol in California, park patrol at Yellowstone National Park and five went to Park City for use prior to and during the 2002 Olympics. Gordon Larsen of the Questar Corporation, who was instrumental in getting some of the vehicles sent to Utah, encouraged Park City officials to let Governor Leavitt, and his staff, take one for a spin. Lt. Governor Olene Walker accepted the keys to the Expedition, along with a Gas-Card and book of refueling sites, in the fall of 1999.

"This was the first time I had ever had the opportunity to drive a natural gas vehicle, and it went remarkably well," said Walker. "It worked well, started well, smooth ride, it was fun to drive. I wish I could have taken it to St. George, but we've got to get more gas stations."

Fuel Network Manager, Jeff Done is working toward ending the limited fueling issue, by adding more CNG sites to the network, both at State-owned and private sites. In early April of this year the Fuel Network will be adding three new CNG fueling sites.

Done said the State of Utah is ranked fourth in the nation for CNG fueling availability, and that State employee's can currently travel freely throughout Northern Utah and most of the Southeastern region of the State. He believes that increased use of Alternative Fuel Vehicles (AFV) will drive the private sector into offering more alternative fuel options in the future.

"With [unleaded] fuel prices souring the way they are and natural gas is holding steady at about, 60 cents per gallon, it makes sense to switch," Done said. "We, as employee's of the State, should be utilizing the CNG vehicles made available to us through the Division of Fleet Operations. It is our hope that the Expedition will educate and encourage the use of the Alternative Fuel Vehicles (AFV) in the State Fleet."

An out of date perception that continues to discourage people from trying a CNG vehicle is that they have no power. Alan Workman, from the Governor's security team, was surprised by the power of the Expedition. In fact he was told to quit passing so much, on a recent trip to Loa. With a chuckle, he swears he was "only doin' 65".

"I'd driven some of the old conversion cars and they were gutless, so I thought, 'this is going to be a dog' but when I got in and drove it, it wasn't a dog at all it was really good," Workman said.

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One Excited Welcome and Two Sad Farewells

DFO welcomes Gary Robertson as the newest member of the team. Robertson began his employment at the State more than 10 years ago. He got his start as an Auditor I for the State Auditors Office, before beginning a 3 year break from service. He returned to the State in at ITS in 1991. He worked as a Accountant III, over budgets and rates. July 1999 brought Gary a move to DFCM were he supervised the accountants.

Robertson has come to DFO to be the Internal Service Fund Accountant. He says he is happy with his decision to join the team and anticipates his retirement will be from DFO.

By the way . . . His birthday is June 9th.

Shirley Robinson is leaving DFO after more than five years of dedicated service.

She came to DFO by way of Tax, where she was hired in 1987 as a Audit Tech II, from there she spent a year at ITS where she was an Accounting Tech II before becoming Fleet's Accounting Tech III in June of 1994. She was quickly moved up to Accountant I and within six months of finishing her accounting degree she was promoted to Accountant II and began supervising the other accountants and accounting techs in the Division.

Robinson has accepted an Account IV position with DFCM. DFO wishes Shirley Robinson luck in her new endeavors.

DFO and the State of Utah bids farewell to Mark Young after more than 9 years of service.

Young got his start with the State in 1990 at what was then the Division of Surplus Property. The Division changed to General Services when Governor Leavitt took office, and Mark became the Central Stores Manager. When Surplus Property became a part of DFO, Mark was made Surplus Property Manager. He moved to a position as Fleet Services Coordinator in late 1999.

Young will be leaving State employment for a position at IOMEGA in their Web development department.

DFO wishes Mark Young luck at his new job, out there in the real world.

With materials from Surplus Property the team was able to conduct the research .

Surplus Success…
"Is Surplus Important? Very!"

Ed Kinder, machine shop supervisor.

Retired Shop Supervisor, Verl Perry and his replacement Ed Kinder are leading the way in the creation of a wonderland of medical technology from what seemed like State and Federal Surplus junk. From "heal"acoptors to cancer treatment equipment to artificial limbs to valves for the artificial heart, the creative minds at the University of Utah's School of Medicine Machine Shop are able to develop and design medical devices that are helping doctors save lives.

As the two men weave in and out of their jungle of giant machines, there seems to be a story attached to each one:

"This came from surplus, this is used to make hip joints, ankle joints, Harrington rods (devices used in the treatment of Scoliosis)"; "We designed the life support system for the 'heal'acoptor with this one"; "With this computer controlled lathe, we did a lot of work for Oncology (cancer treatment)", and they say they could do so much more, but there just isn't the enough money.

"Research is very important. For instance, if I have a tumor, and they treat the tumor, it's going to burn the skin [around the affected area]. Radiation burns never heal, this machine could make it so the radiation wouldn't burn the

skin, but would still treat the cancer. But we're not doing it, because the funding has never been there to go ahead with the project." Perry said.

Steve Moulding and Don Butler

Some of the projects that have been funded are being used at the University Hospital, Stephen Moulding, Supervisor of the Biomedical Engineering Department, explained that Surplus Property can be found throughout the hospital. In the research labs surplus army power supplies and oscilloscopes are used, surplus motors are used to keep the hospital running and until Y2K, surplus equipment kept the time in the hospital and surrounding buildings. But by far the most impressive piece of surplus has been made into a machine that makes body shields for people undergoing cancer treatment.

"Radiation therapy is a serious treatment because you're actually destroying tissue in the body. What this machine does, by looking at the x-ray of a patient and identifying the target area, we can then make [medal] shields that can be used during the treatment to shield the areas they [the doctors] don't want radiated," said Moulding, who designed the equipment. He went on to explain that before the use of this technology, many patients didn't survive the treatment due to radiation poisoning. Patient survival rate of is now much higher. The equipment is now manufactured and sold worldwide.

The doctors at the hospital wanted to be able to inform their patients what would happen after areas of the brain are destroyed during radiation therapy. With materials from Surplus Property the team was able to conduct the research needed to provide the doctors with the information they had requested.

An electrician for the hospital, Don Butler added, that Machine Shop team and Surplus Property saved the hospital hundreds of thousands of dollars throughout the years.

"They have the ability to see the roses through the weeds, so to speak," he said. "Just untold amount of equipment, that we could not have done without, was built through the Machine Shop." Ed Kinder and his team of unsung hero's will continue to research and design mechanical equipment in the School of Medicine Machine Shop Center for Advanced Medical Technology, where they answer the question of, "how do you know you can build that", with "how do you know I can't."

They Have The Ability To See The Roses Through The Weeds"

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The downside of the Loa trip was a fear of running out of fuel.

"We filled-up in Sandy and by the time we got to Provo we were thinking 'we're no-way making it to Richfield'. So we filled-up in Springville, then we made it into Richfield fine, but we had to fill-up to get to Loa and back to Richfield. We did take one shot in, coming back," Workman said. "It seemed, on the gas gage, the fuel would go really quick at first, but once it gets down around a quarter [of a tank] seems to hold there for awhile. So you can go, probably a little further than you think."

Workman reported that fueling takes a little longer, but the benefits of cleaner air, clearly outweigh the inconvenience.

"The first time, I had an anxiety thing, but as soon as I filled it once, I liked it, it was easy," he said. "I think it's a great alternative. And with the air quality like it is, the future has to change. That includes mass transit, car pooling and alternative vehicles, such as CNG and electric. And where you're not losing the horsepower or performance . . ."